

**Gallatin's Landscape is Evolving**

(August 15, 2012) Having just returned from a family reunion/vacation, I am excited to see that the landscape in Gallatin continues to evolve. Just go visit Triple Creek Park and see our new covered pavilion! This structure is 200 ft. x 70 ft. and can be rented for public use. This new venue can be used for family reunions, corporate picnics, event shows, etc. The remarkable story about this pavilion is that it is the old Sumner County Bus Garage! Our parks crews disassembled the old garage at the Sumner County Airport and moved the parts and materials to Triple Creek Park. A new concrete pad and apron were poured at the back of the park. A local construction company reassembled it and made all necessary repairs. Then our Parks crews painted the old steel and VIOLA! You have a beautiful covered pavilion! Now that is what I call recycling. Kudos to the Parks Department.

The improvements to North Water continue to take shape. Much of the new curbing and sidewalks on one side are finished. Needed repairs and work are continuing on the other side. My hat goes off to the folks in Public Works who have had to work in extreme temperatures on this very vital project.

There is a TDOT Pubic Meeting regarding the route of Albert Gallatin/Hatten Track on Thursday, August 23, from 5-7 p.m. at our Civic Center. This important road will be our Northern Bypass and open up Gallatin's eastern and northern boundaries. After this meeting, TDOT will enter into Right-of-Way acquisitions. TDOT estimates it will take at least a year to acquire all of the necessary property.

Work continues on widening Red River Road from Long Hollow Pike to Dorothy Jordan Ave. Our Public Works crews and Public Utilities crews are improving drainage, curbing, and utility services. TDOT will mill, stripe, and pave this section to three lanes. This is another great example of partnering with the State.

Phase 2 of our Public Works building plan is taking shape. The concrete pad has been poured for the storage/garage building and the steel will be delivered soon. This building will help house our multi-million dollar fleet of vehicles and equipment.

Segment 2 of our Greenway has been awarded to Charles Deweese Construction. Construction should begin toward the end of August and is slated to be finished in early 2013. Segment 2 runs from Barton Street to Wilmore Street.

As you can see, Gallatin continues to improve. Along with good fiscal management, these improvements allow us to serve you better.

P.S. Mayor's Night In is Tuesday, August 28th from 4:30 to 6 p.m. in my office. Your input is important – come see me.

P.S.S. For more exciting news – come to the State of the City address on Monday, September 10th at 11:30 a.m. at the Epic Event Centre – call the Chamber for more information and reservations at 452-4000.

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